

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Governance Committee

8:30 am – 10:00 am, January 31, 2013

Joe R. Williams Building, 700 W. State Street, First Floor

Committee Members Present: Debra Parsons, Dona Butler, Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Ritchy Cardwell, Raul Enriquez, Joni Sullivan, Denise Wetzel

Committee Members Absent: Jo Lynn Garrison, Jacquie Watson

Staff: Marilyn Sword

Welcome and Announcements

Debra Parsons called the meeting to order at 8:35 am. Because the committee agenda is light, members are encouraged to attend the Public Policy Committee meeting if this meeting adjourns early.

Minutes

Minutes of the October 25, 2012 meeting were reviewed. **Motion was made by Joni Sullivan to approve the minutes, second by Toni Brinegar. Motion carried.**

Conference Funding

The Council has received no conference funding requests in the last quarter. The committee discussed why no one was making these requests. Some of the reasons the group came up with were:

- Travel restrictions due to the economy
- People may not be able to get the time off
- Fewer conferences being held, also due to costs
- People may be unaware of our funds
- Restrictions on our funds (\$500/person, no more than one stipend to the same conference)

Recommendations were made as to what could be done to encourage people to apply. Ideas included:

- Put information about this on the Council brochure
- Highlight it more on the Council website
- Create a brochure or flyer for this and get it out to other organizations (IPUL, CID)
- Post on Facebook

- Change policy to allow more than one person to attend the same conference with Council support
- Increase the amount beyond the current \$500 limit

Recommendations on self advocacy organizational representation on the Council

Marilyn reviewed the request that was made by the Council at the last meeting which was for the Consumer Leadership Caucus and the Governance Committee to work together to see if there was a way to designate one of the self advocate slots on the Council to be a representative of a statewide self advocacy organization. Marilyn did some research on this issue by contacting other Councils and the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. She also looked at Council By-Laws and Policy 104. AIDD said that councils who are doing this use one of the non-governmental or non-profit slots. These are currently filled by representatives of provider organizations. While this is doable and it would be up to SALN decide, the committee members liked having the perspective of the two current organizations.

Another option would be to add another position to the Council as an organizational representative for a self advocacy organization. This is not required in federal law. If we did this, then we would have to add another self advocate or family member position to keep at a 60% consumer majority as required in federal law. It is highly unlikely that we would be able to get legislation approved and the Governor to sign off on expanding our Council by another two members. Right now the emphasis is on making councils and commissions smaller, not larger.

A third option would be to keep things as they are, recognizing that all of the current self advocates on the Council are SALN members.

Ritchy said that the CLC recommended leaving things as they are currently. The Governance Committee agreed. SALN is currently undecided about whether they will apply as a non-governmental organization when one of those slots becomes available.

Dona Butler asked about where and how many SALN chapters were in place. Chapters are currently active in Idaho Falls/Pocatello, Boise, Nampa, and Moscow. One is in the works for Emmett. Dona thought perhaps there could be some linkage between SALN and the Mental Health Courts.

2014 Funding

Marilyn gave an update on the Governor's recommendation for the Council appropriation for the State Fiscal Year 2014. He has recommended a small increase in benefit costs with all other budget categories remaining the same. The appropriation total request is \$640,600. Marilyn made the Council budget presentation to the Joint Finance Appropriations Committee (JFAC) on January 17. The Council's federal funds are being allocated through a Continuing Resolution until March 27 and will be impacted by sequestration (automatic across the board cuts) if it occurs.

Other

It was noted that the website needs to be updated to show Dave Dekker as the Council's Consumer Representative.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.